

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 have been cancelled. Claims 13-24 have been added. Claims 13-24 remain pending in the present application. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, drawings and claims as originally filed.

The undersigned attorney would like to thank Examiner Choi for the courtesies extended to him during the personal interview on February 5, 2007. At the interview, the claims were discussed. The Examiner indicated that directing the claims toward a jigsaw with a support apparatus would be favorably considered.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Gerber (U.S. Patent No. 6,131,498) and Claims 1-5 and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hartmann (U.S. Patent No. 4,545,123).

New Claims 13-24 define a jigsaw which includes a support apparatus. The jigsaw includes a housing as well as a motor and reciprocating member. A mount is rigidly mounted with the housing. The mount includes a bearing bushing connected to the support. Both the support and mount are positioned outside of the jigsaw housing.

The Gerber reference cited by the Examiner fails to disclose or illustrate a jigsaw. Accordingly, Gerber does not anticipate Applicant's claims. Likewise, by not being related to a jigsaw, the Gerber reference does not render Applicant's invention obvious to those skilled in the art.

The Hartmann reference illustrates a jigsaw. Hartmann does not illustrate a support apparatus as claimed. Hartmann does not disclose a support which provides a

reaction force on the blade of the reciprocating member. Also, the support as well as the mount is positioned outside of the jigsaw housing.

The Hartmann reference cited by the Examiner fails to disclose or illustrate any type of support apparatus as claimed by Applicant. Thus, the Hartmann reference does not anticipate Applicant's claims. Further, the Hartmann reference would fail to render Applicant's claims obvious to those skilled in the art.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass the case to issue at his earliest possible convenience. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present application, he should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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